

REMARKS

Reconsideration of all grounds of objection and rejection, and allowance of all pending claims are respectfully requested in light of the above amendment and the following remarks. Claims 1-25, as shown above, remain pending herein. Claims 26-30 have been added, support for which is found throughout the specification and drawings, particularly at page 3, lines 1-10, and page 7, line 15, to page 8, line 4, and Fig. 2.

Summary of the Rejections:

(1) Claims 1, 3-7, 9, 11-15 17, 19-21, 23 and 24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Bartholomew et al. (U.S. 6,215,858, hereafter “Bartholomew”) in view of Bowater et al. (“U.S. 6,282,269, hereafter “Bowater”).

(2) Claims 2, 10, 16, 22 and 25 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 (a) over Bartholomew and Bowater in view of Sienel et al. (U.S. 6,426,942 hereafter “Sienel”).

(3) Claims 8 and 18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over the combination of Bartholomew in view of Official Notice.

Applicants Traversal:

Applicants have amended base claims 1, 9, 15, 19 and 23 to recite that the Internet Gateway is arranged within the branch exchange, support for which is found in the specification at least at page 7, line 15, to page 8, line 4 and Fig. 2.

It is respectfully submitted that none of the references (Bartholomew, Bowater, Sienel, Official Notice) alone, or in any combination thereof, discloses or suggests at least the above recitation in the base claims.

In contrast to the combination of cited references, the present invention discloses a method and

device for recording/reproducing a voice message for an announcement broadcasting or automatic answering function using a DSP contained within an Internet gateway in a private branch exchange (PABX) instead of a separate voice mailing system (VMS).

However, the combination of references fails to disclose or suggest the claimed invention as evidenced when studying the combined teachings of the references. For example, Bartholomew discloses that a voice message transfer between respective telephone networks and their respective multimode centralized message system occurs via an Internet, but the construction thereof is not implemented within the internet gateway, but instead is implemented in an addition voice mail system. Thus, Bartholomew requires a separate voice mail system. Bowater similarly requires a separate voice mail system.

Moreover, Bartholomew arranges a separate voice mail system 120 and 404, 406 as shown in Figs. 6 and 8, and Bowater also arranges a voice mail system 610 as shown in Fig. 6 of the reference. Sienel is directed to a stabilization of data throughput between an INET and a PSTN and as such as completely silent with regard to voice mail systems. Finally, the feature of using G.723.1 for the voice encoding when comparing the current data throughput with a predetermined threshold value in Sienel has no relation to a feature of the present invention using G.723.1 for effectively storing and compressing the voice message in a flash memory.

For at least the above reasons, it is respectfully submitted that none of the instant claims would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art in view of any of the above references, alone or in any combination including the Official Notice. It is respectfully submitted that the present invention provides at least the advantage that a voice message is recorded or reproduced within the internet gateway, without installing a separate VMS, as compared with the cited references, and thus for at least this reason, it cannot be said that the claimed invention would have been obvious to an artisan at the time

of invention in view of the combination of references.

All claims dependent from one of the base claims 1, 9, 15, 19 and 23 are believed to be allowable at least due to their dependency from a base claim believed to be allowable.

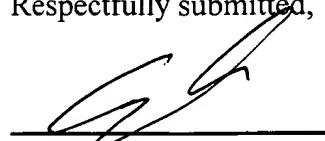
Applicants also respectfully submit that new claims 26-30 are also allowable in view of the cited references for similar reasons presented above supporting why the combination of references fails to disclose, suggest, or provide motivation to a person of ordinary skill in the art such that would render any of these claims to be obvious.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of all grounds of rejection are respectfully requested.

For all the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all of the instant claims are patentable. A Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner deem that there are any issues which may be best resolved by telephone, please contact Applicant's undersigned representative at the number listed below. If there are any fees due and owing, please charge Applicants Deposit Account on file 502-507.

Respectfully submitted,



Steve Cha
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 44,069

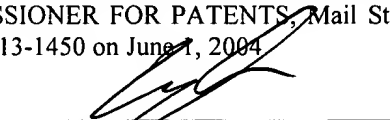
Date: June 1, 2004

CHA & REITER
210 Route 4 East, #103
Paramus, New Jersey 07652
(201) 226-9245
(201) 226-9246 (Fax)

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on June 1, 2004.

Steven Cha, Reg. No. 44,069
(Name of Registered Representative)


(Signature and Date)